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## **CONTACT: Sandy Gutierrez DATE:** February 18, 2010 **RELEASE NO: 125** Media Advisory

SAPD Releases Latest Information in Missing Baby Gabriel Case

On Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, San Antonio Police Chief William McManus held a news conference detailing the excavation process in the case of missing baby, Gabriel Johnson.

- 8-month-old Baby Gabriel has been missing since December 26<sup>th</sup> when he was last seen here in San Antonio.
- In cooperation with the Tempe Police Department and the local FBI office, the San Antonio Police Department opened a missing person's investigation into the disappearance of Gabriel (1-9-10).
- We remain hopeful that baby Gabriel is alive.
- We are conducting both a missing person's investigation, as well as a homicide investigation.
- Homicide investigators believe that aspects surrounding the disappearance of baby Gabriel involve elements of a possible homicide.
- During the course of the investigation, we have received and followed up on several leads.
- One of those leads has led us to the Tessman Road Landfill.
- Landfill personnel pinpointed an exact location where the search was to begin.

The excavation process was described as two-fold. In **Phase I**:

- We estimated removing 45 feet of debris and ended up removing approximately 30 feet.
- This correlates into 45,000 tons of debris.
- Phase I took 7 days to complete:

  - Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> excavation day Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> excavation day Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> no excavation due to inclement weather
  - Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> excavation day
  - Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> excavation day Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> no excavation Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> excavation day

  - Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> excavation day
  - Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> excavation day

We plan to initiate **Phase II** on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. During this phase:

- This search phase will be a long and repetitive cycle.
- 35 people will be dedicated to this search.
- Search teams will be looking for anything of evidentiary value.
- Debris will be thoroughly examined by search teams as well as cadaver dogs.
- Debris with no evidentiary value will be disposed of.
- Hours for this operation will be 7:30 am 6 pm Monday Friday.
- As the need arises, information will be disseminated.
- We continue to urge ANYONE with information on this case, call 1-800-THE-LOST.
- Partners in this search operation:
  - Allied Waste Landfill
  - Zachary Construction
  - Yantis Construction
  - M & M Contracting
  - Holt Construction
  - United Site Services
  - Home Depot
  - Bexar County Junior Livestock
  - Martinez Social Club

- Sams
- Academy
- Lowes
- Walmart
- Whataburger
- Target
- Panchitos Mexican Restaurant
- San Antonio Police Officers' Association
- Smashburger